

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 DRC-01 AID-20 /094 W

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R 212011Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6557

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, UY

SUBJ: CUT: NEW LEADERS, NEW NAME, NEW IMAGE

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. SUMMARY: 92 UNIONS PARTICIPATED IN A CONGRESS OF THE URUGUAYAN CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CUT) MAY 17-19. THEY ELECTED NEW OFFICERS, APPROVED NEW STATUTES AND CHANGED THE ORGANIZATION'S NAME TO THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS OF URUGUAY (CGTU).

2. NINETY-TWO UNIONS LARGELY MEMBERS OF CUT, URUGUAY'S DEMOCRATIC LABOR CONFEDERATION, MET IN DURAZNO MAY 17-19 TO BEGIN THE CONFEDERATION'S ROAD BACK TO RECOGNITION UNDER THE AUGUST 1973 LABOR LAW. THERE EMERGED FROM THE CONGRESS A NEW NAME, THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS OF URUGUAY (CGTU), NEW STATUTES WHICH CONFORM TO EXISTING LAW AND NEW OFFICERS. ROBERTO BORRAZAS, PRESIDENT OF MONTEVIDEO'S BUS DRIVERS UNION, WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT AND ARIEL DEL GAUDIO, PRESIDENT OF THE GROUP OF SEAMEN'S UNIONS, WAS ELECTED SECRETARY GENERAL.

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3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS THE CONGRESS

LIMITED ITSELF TO ELECTING LEADERS AND CHANGING STATUTES. THUS, NEITHER PRONOUNCEMENTS NOR OTHER POSITIONS EMERGED FROM THE CONGRESS. THE CLOSING SESSION WAS ATTENDED BY LEADING LOCAL OFFICIALS, CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, AND BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MINISTER OF LABOR.

4. COMMENT: THE RESULTS WERE PRECISELY THOSE EXPECTED. CUT NEEDED A NEW IMAGE AND NEW LEADERS. IT NOW HAS BOTH. AND, AS WE ARE TOLD, IT IS THE FIRST TIME IN RECENT URUGUAYAN HISTORY THAT A LABOR CONFEDERATION HAS BEEN FORMED BY BASE UNIONS OF PROVEN STRENGTH

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ON THE BASIS OF SIGNED REGISTRATIONS PRESENTED TO THE MINISTRY OF LABOR.

5. DEMOCRATIC LABOR LEADERS ARE MOST ENCOURAGED. THEY ARE CONFIDENT THAT A NEW IMAGE WILL BRING EVER-INCREASING NEW AFFILIATIONS FROM THE RANKS OF INDEPENDENT UNIONS. INDEPENDENT AND FORMER CUT UNIONS REGISTERED 2,878 MEMBERS IN APRIL FOR AN APRIL 30 TOTAL OF 24,118, A SUBSTANTIAL GAIN THIS LAST MONTH ON THE FORMER CNT WHICH REGISTERED 172 MEMBERS FOR A TOTAL OF 37,731 AT MONTH'S END. ALTHOUGH THE CNT IS FAR AHEAD IN TERMS OF TOTAL REGISTRATIONS, THE PROGRESS OVER THE LAST MONTH HAS HEARTENED DEMOCRATIC FORCES.

6. THE KEY QUESTION REMAIN IS THE ATTITUDE THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE WITH RESPECT TO THE ENTIRE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. SIRACUSA

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** ELAB, UY, CUT, CGTU  
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